

State Accreditation Committee
Meeting Minutes
May 27, 2020

The Nebraska State Accreditation Committee met via Zoom on May 27, 2020. Mike Sieh, Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m., declared a quorum present, and established the legality of the meeting. Members present were the following: Mary Anderson, Luke Bretscher, Wayne Brown, Brad Dirksen, Josie Floyd, Dale Fornander, Pat Hoehner, Vickie Kauffold, Mitch Kubicek, Troy Lurz, Travis Miller, Marco Pedroza, Joe'l Ruybalid, Sarah Salem, Dan Schnoes, Bess Scott, Amy Shane and Mike Sieh.

Members absent: Elizabeth Boyle, Melissa Comine, Judi gaiashkibos, Dale Hafer and Boris Moore.

NDE staff members participating in all or some of the Zoom meeting were the following: Commissioner Matt Blomstedt, Deputy Commissioner Deb Frison, Shirley Vargas, Lane Carr, Ryan Foor, Don Loseke and Micki Charf.

Don Loseke gave special recognition and appreciation to outgoing Chair and Committee Member Mike Sieh and outgoing Committee Member Troy Lurz. In addition, Dr. Bess Scott was introduced as a new SAC Member and Vickie Kauffold was recognized for her new position as Superintendent of the Omaha Archdiocese Schools.

Mike Sieh reviewed the agenda. Mitch Kubicek moved to approve the agenda and Dale Fornander seconded the motion.

Voting yes: Mary Anderson, Luke Bretscher, Wayne Brown, Brad Dirksen, Josie Floyd, Dale Fornander, Pat Hoehner, Vickie Kauffold, Mitch Kubicek, Troy Lurz, Travis Miller, Marco Pedroza, Joe'l Ruybalid, Sarah Salem, Dan Schnoes, Bess Scott, Amy Shane and Mike Sieh.

Voting no: none.

Approval carried 18-0 with 5 absent.

Members reviewed the minutes of the January 23, 2020, meeting. Josie Floyd moved to accept the minutes and Marco Pedroza seconded the motion.

Voting yes: Mary Anderson, Luke Bretscher, Wayne Brown, Brad Dirksen, Josie Floyd, Dale Fornander, Pat Hoehner, Vickie Kauffold, Mitch Kubicek, Troy Lurz, Travis Miller, Marco Pedroza, Joe'l Ruybalid, Sarah Salem, Dan Schnoes, Bess Scott, Amy Shane and Mike Sieh.

Voting no: none.

Approval carried 18-0 with 5 absent.

State Accreditation Committee Handbook (Draft) Discussion

Don Loseke reviewed the draft of the State Accreditation Committee Handbook and asked Committee Members for feedback and suggestions. The Committee agreed the document would be a helpful tool for new members as we move forward.

Annual Report Review

Don Loseke reviewed the information included in the May 2020 State Accreditation Annual Report.

Action on Accreditation of School Systems

Mike Sieh shared with members the list of 244 Class II through V School Districts, 5 Special Purpose Schools, and 83 Nonpublic Schools recommended for continued accreditation in 2020-2021. Joe'l Ruybalid moved to approve accreditation of the recommended school systems and Pat Hoehner seconded the motion.

Voting yes: Mary Anderson, Luke Bretscher, Wayne Brown, Brad Dirksen, Josie Floyd, Dale Fornander, Pat Hoehner, Vickie Kauffold, Mitch Kubicek, Troy Lurz, Travis Miller, Marco Pedroza, Joe'l Ruybalid, Sarah Salem, Dan Schnoes, Bess Scott, Amy Shane and Mike Sieh.

Voting no: none.

Approval carried 18-0, with 5 absent.

Rule 10 Revision Updates and Timeline - Current/Proposed Structure

Don Loseke and Micki Charf updated the Committee on the work being done on Rule 10. The proposed structure is based on three separate, but interrelated systems:

- Approval (Minimum Requirements)
- Accreditation (Focused on the Continuous Improvement Process and the Annual Review Process)
- Accountability (Clarity around Classifications and Designations)

Commissioner Blomstedt spoke briefly about the timeline for Rule change and addressing challenges in the current environment.

Breakout Activity

Committee members broke out into groups to discuss the following three topics:

- **Transition Discussion** - Micki Charf
Current role and any experience with Rule 18 programs.
- **Percentage Allowances** - Don Loseke
Differences in required percentages for certified teachers for public and nonpublic schools.
- **Distance Learning Options** - Lane Carr
Local Options for Providing High School Courses (Virtual Learning).

Shirley Vargas - Facilitator

Following the breakout activity, members reported out on their discussions. Feedback from committee members followed.

Closing Comments - Mike Sieh

The meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m.